

charlatans who see opportunity in them. And we have, sadly, learned that such fear can cause a free people to abandon their legacy of freedom and independence, their prosperity, and their common sense, but only for a while.

Every time in history that this has happened, there is always a moment when the fear fever breaks, and the hysteria suddenly burns itself out. The French Revolution, the Salem witch trials, the Communist hysteria of the 1950s all had a moment when the absurdity of it all became so apparent that it overcame the fear and the people turned on their tormentors.

Now, I don't know if the recent wave of business and religious persecutions, the unlimited home detention orders, and the demonstrated hypocrisy of those who have ordered them signals that moment. But every shopkeeper who defies these petty tyrants, every parent who confronts their school officials, every person who refuses to submit to the dysfunctional dystopian world created by the lockdown left brings us one step closer to that turning point. It can't come soon enough.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MAYOR DAVID DINKINS

The SPEAKER *pro tempore*. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great New Yorker, someone that has made us all proud, someone that we all stand on his shoulders, the late Mayor David N. Dinkins.

Words cannot express how we feel in New York with the passing of Mayor Dinkins. Many of us stand on his shoulders, as many of us here in this Chamber stand on the shoulders of other giants that came before us. None of us really stand on our own. We stand on the shoulders of those trailblazers, those pioneers that opened the door to men and women across the country.

Mayor Dinkins was such a leader. He was the first and, up to today, the only African-American mayor in New York City, a city that prides itself on diversity. In fact, New York City says that its strength really comes from the depths of its diversity.

People from all over the world, immigrants, as I was in 1964, coming from the Dominican Republic, people from all over the world come to New York City looking for that dream. Different races, ethnicities, religions make New York City strong. And Mayor Dinkins often called the city a gorgeous mosaic, and that was its strength.

So we honor his legacy and his many years of service as a New York State Assembly member, as a Manhattan borough president, and then, of course, as mayor of the city of New York.

His detractors, and those that attempt to be revisionists of history, will never acknowledge the great things

that he did. But those of us in the trenches, in the neighborhoods that have been traditionally forgotten, those of us that know that our communities lacked the voices to be heard, the disenfranchised of the city of New York will forever remember him for his accomplishments.

Community policing, he got \$1.8 billion to establish the community policing program; foot officers, foot patrol officers, in neighborhoods across the city of New York fighting crack and crime but, most importantly, knowing the community, the small business owners, having a daily relationship, almost as family members, preventing the kind of conflict that is plaguing America today.

The beacon schools that he opened up, after-school programs that became the center of communities across the city of New York; the Arthur Ashe Stadium for tennis, which houses the US Open and yields more revenue than baseball, basketball, and football for the city of New York.

And, of course, that day when he welcomed Nelson Mandela to New York City, it was such an important day. I went to that celebration, and many of us in New York felt that day that New York was the center of the universe. Every neighborhood enjoyed and celebrated freedom for South Africa, and Mayor Dinkins was our mayor. What a great day. What a great mayor.

What a legacy, Mr. Speaker.

I stand here to honor that legacy so that it will never be forgotten that the great, late David N. Dinkins was an integral part of the gorgeous mosaic that he always called New York.

□ 1030

DEMOCRATS PRIORITIZE MARIJUANA OVER COVID RELIEF

The SPEAKER *pro tempore*. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, in March, our public health experts said that we needed to stay home to fight this virus and to bend the curve. Those public health experts urged the administration and Congress to design COVID-19 relief that included 8 weeks of paycheck protection and enhanced unemployment compensation through July, all with the thought that that was the amount of support that we needed to provide, given the nature of this virus.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to state the obvious: Months later, America remains in the throes of a brutal pandemic, Americans are hurting, and Arkansans are hurting. Every day I hear from restaurant owners and hotel operators who are concerned about whether or not they will stay in business and whether or not they can survive.

Central Arkansans tell me that they are spending more time worried about their school kids, keeping their schools open, and having reliable broadband to

be able to do telemedicine and tele-education. More central Arkansans are taking their meals at food banks. Mr. Speaker, frontline workers depend on help and our health industry to deliver the care that is essential.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, for what has the House leadership and Speaker PELOSI brought us back to Washington, D.C., to consider? Is it to consider this much-needed delivered COVID-19 relief for the American people?

No.

Is it to extend the deadline for the Paycheck Protection Program or bring the discharge petition to the House floor that House Republicans have proposed, that has over 180 signatures of this body to help our small businesses who desperately need that assistance?

No.

Mr. Speaker, while Arkansans and Americans are suffering, and while Republicans are working to extend critical assistance like the Paycheck Protection Program, our House Democratic leadership is putting a bill to legalize pot on the floor of the United States House for a vote.

Let that sink in. In the midst of this pandemic and in the midst of calls across the country to help the American people, our leadership in this House has proposed a bill to legalize pot.

My friends on the other side of the aisle are showing just how much they are out of touch with conditions in our country today. People are working to make ends meet for their families. They are trying to educate their children while juggling work obligations. They are trying to protect themselves and their loved ones from this virus.

And that is why we are here this week: To legalize pot?

Mr. Speaker, Republicans are leading. Our discharge petition could help small businesses right now, and every Democrat should sign it. Yet, Mr. Speaker, for 40 times, our Speaker of the House has blocked the consideration of extending the Paycheck Protection Program. House Democrats need to follow the lead of House Republicans and put Americans above their special interest friends by moving COVID-19 relief today on this House floor, by calling up our discharge petition and voting on paycheck protection relief.

RECOGNIZING CLAYTON BOOTHE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional young man in my district, Clayton Boothe, who was raised to value a broad span of interests. At just 17 years old, he is excelling in many of these areas.

He is captain of his quiz bowl team, founder of Maumelle High School's chess team, and a member of Arkansas' Governor's School and the National Honor Society. He is ranked top of his class, and he is one of 16,000 semifinalists in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program out of 1.5 million nationwide applicants.